SUBJECT No. 30

Discontinuance of the practice of requiring inamdars to take out licenses for removal of fuel.

Mr. N. Surppa, Inamdars' Association, Bangalore.

Summary of Discussion.—The member stated that the raiyats in Government villages are permitted to remove their forest produce without a license which is insisted on in the cases of removal of such produce from inam lands and requested that the restriction on the inamdars may be removed by authorising inamdars themselves to permit removal of the produce under their own passes.

Reply of Government.—The rule cannot be relaxed in the interests of forest growth on Government lands. The question of authorising the inamdars to issue passes and of the supply to them of the necessary license books will be investigated.

SUBJECT No. 31

Permission to inamdars to lease out their forest produce.

Mr. N. Surappa, Inamdars' Association, Bangalore.

Summary of Discussion.—It was explained that prior to the disposal of their forest produce, (tangadi and kakke bark) the inamdars had to obtain a permit from the forest officers who delayed the issue of these permits to the detriment of the inamdars and that consequently it was argued that inamdars should be free to dispose of their produce without reference to the Forest Department.

Reply of Government.—The question of avoiding the hardships by authorising the inamdars to issue passes themselves, or by fixing a time limit within which licenses should be issued by the officers concerned will be investigated.

SUBJECT No. 32

Marking the boundary line of State Forests 165 yards away from cultivated lands.

Messrs. P. Venkappaiya, Shimoga Taluk and Nadig Bhaskara-Rao, Sorab Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—It was represented that the close proximity of the State Forest boundary line to cultivated lands was highly inconvenient and irksome to the raiyats and their cattle and that therefore the line should be removed to a distance of at least 165 yards from the cultivated fields.

Reply of Government.—The proposal involves heavy expenditure and there is no necessity to alter the present rule which fixes a margin of 110 yards. Individual cases of hardships due to the proximity of boundary lines will be investigated if brought to the notice of Government. The question of removing such boundary lines to a suitable distance from inhabited villages will also receive due consideration.

REVENUE—(EXCISE).

(Nos. 33 to 36.)

SUBJECT No. 33

Appointment of a Committee to introduce Temperance Measures.

Mr. Niligiri G. Sanjeeviah, Kurubara Sangha, Bangalore.

Mr. Niligiri G. Sanjeeviah:—Excise revenue is increasing year by year. This shows that the excise policy of Government is not dry but wet. Shops are being opened after 8 o'clock in the night. This should be put a stop to.

The existing Licensing Board can do nothing in this matter as it has no power at present.

It is necessary that this Board be empowered, as in British India, to enforce the location of shops in suitable localities and keeping the shops open during specified hours.

Dewan.—That is a separate proposition.

Mr. Sanjeeviah:—Committees have been appointed by the Bombay and Madras Governments and it is necessary that a similar committee should be appointed here. This committee should visit all places in the State, study the conditions and see how far it will be possible to reduce consumption.